

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A clutch assembly comprising  
a clutch (K1; K2; K3; K4), to engage the clutch, a pressure plate being moved axially against the force ( $F_{KS}$ ) of the lining springiness;  
a lever plate, supported in the peripheral region, which transmits the force ( $F_A$ ) applied by a clutch-release system to a release bearing, to the pressure plate with leverage; and  
a clutch actuator, whose actuating force ( $F_S$ ), which is amplified by the force ( $F_{KO}$ ) of a linear compensating spring, acts on the clutch-release system,  
characterized by a spring force ( $F_{TF}$ ) which acts in the direction of the force ( $F_{KS}$ ) of the lining springiness on the lever plate and whose magnitude is adapted to the magnitude of the force ( $F_{KO}$ ) of the linear compensating spring.
2. The clutch assembly as recited in claim 1,  
wherein the lever plate for applying the spring force ( $F_{TF}$ ) is designed as a lever diaphragm-spring system.
3. The clutch assembly as recited in claim 1 or 2,  
wherein the bearing surface of the pressure plate is equipped with an adjusting ring to compensate for wear.
4. The clutch assembly as recited in claim 1,  
characterized by an adjusting ring that acts on the peripheral region of the lever plate to compensate for wear.
5. The clutch assembly as recited in claim 4,  
wherein a cover stop is assigned to the radially inner region of the lever plate.
6. The clutch assembly as recited in claim 1, 4 or 5,  
wherein, in order to apply the spring force ( $F_{TF}$ ), an adjusting diaphragm spring is assigned to the lever plate.
7. The clutch assembly as recited in claim 6,

wherein the adjusting diaphragm spring is located on the outside of the lever plate.

8. The clutch assembly as recited in claim 7,  
wherein the adjusting diaphragm spring is held in the peripheral region by a cover attachment  
and, in the radially inner region, by a lever-plate attachment.

9. The clutch assembly as recited in claim 6,  
wherein the adjusting diaphragm spring is located on the inner side of the lever plate.

10. The clutch assembly as recited in claim 9,  
wherein the adjusting diaphragm spring is held in the peripheral region by a cover attachment  
and, in the radially inner region, rests against the lever plate.

11. The clutch assembly as recited in one of claims 1 through 10,  
wherein the magnitude of the spring force ( $F_{TF}$ ) acting on the lever plate is adapted to the  
magnitude of the force ( $F_{KO}$ ) of the linear compensating spring in such a way that positive  
actuating forces ( $F_S$ ) are produced at the clutch actuator.

12. The clutch assembly as recited in one of claims 1 through 10,  
wherein the magnitude of the spring force ( $F_{TF}$ ) acting on the lever plate is adapted to the  
magnitude of the force ( $F_{KO}$ ) of the linear compensating spring in such a way that a large  
range of motion with minimal actuating forces ( $F_S$ ) results at the clutch actuator.